

# **DON'T GAMBLE WITH NATIONAL SECURITY**

## **Cosponsor the Goodlatte legislation to eliminate the visa lottery program**

The visa lottery program was established in 1990 and awards approximately 50,000 permanent resident visas to foreign nationals by conducting a random lottery. The visa lottery program is a national security threat and represents what is wrong with our nation's immigration laws. Consider the following:

### **THE VISA LOTTERY IS A NATIONAL SECURITY THREAT**

- Most visas are issued to foreign nationals that have existing relationships with lawful U.S. residents or employers. However, the visa lottery awards permanent resident visas based on pure luck, which leaves open the door to those who want to enter the United States to harm our citizens.
- The State Department's Inspector General testified during the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress that: "OIG [Office of Inspector General] continues to believe that the Diversity Visa program contains **SIGNIFICANT RISKS TO NATIONAL SECURITY** from **hostile intelligence officers, criminals, and terrorists** attempting to use the program for entry into the United States as permanent residents."
- On July 4, 2002, a gunman entered the Los Angeles International Airport and opened fire. As a result, two innocent people were killed. The killer's name was Hesham Mohamed Hadayet. He was allowed to legally reside in the United States because his wife won the infamous visa lottery.

### **THE VISA LOTTERY IS UNFAIR TO LAW-ABIDING IMMIGRANTS**

- Family-sponsored immigrants currently face waits of years to be reunited with their families. Each year, the visa lottery program pushes 50,000 random immigrants ahead of these family-sponsored immigrants waiting to be reunited with their families. In addition, each year the visa lottery program discriminates against citizens of countries like Mexico, Haiti, China, India and several others by prohibiting them from participating in the program at all.

To cosponsor this legislation, or for further information, please contact Branden Ritchie in Congressman Bob Goodlatte's office at 5-5431.